PTO/SB/01 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Attorney Docket Number 772490100035 **DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR** First Named Inventor **DESIGN** John Jeffrey Waldman COMPLETE IF KNOWN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63) **Application Number** Filing Date Declaration Declaration Submitted OR Submitted after Initial Art Unit With Initial Filing (surcharge (37 ČFR 1.16 (e)) Filing **Examiner Name** required) I hereby declare that: Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name. I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: LIQUID CONTROL STRUCTURE (Title of the Invention) the specification of which ~ is attached hereto OR was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable). I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed. **Prior Foreign Application** Foreign Filing Date **Priority** Certified Copy Attached? Country Number(s) (MM/DD/YYYY) **Not Claimed** Yes

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Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 115 and 37 CFR 1.63. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Direct all correspondence to: Customer Number:						OR	V	Corresp	oondence addre	ss below	
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JS 216-586-3939			3939				216-579-0212				
I hereby declare that all statem and belief are believed to be statements and the like so made false statements may jeopardize	true; and fur de are punishat	ther that ble by fine	these state or imprise	ement onmen	ts we	re made	e with der 18	the kno	wledge that wi	Ilful false	
NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST IN	VENTOR:		ДАр	etition	has t	een file	d for thi	s unsigr	ned inventor		
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Additional inventors or a legal re	presentative are bei	ng named or	n the 1 s	supplem	ental st	neet(s) PT	O/SB/02A	or 02LR	attached hereto.		

			and Trademark Office	ce; U.S.	PTO/SB/02A (08-03) ugh 08/31/2003. OMB 0651-0032 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE			
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are DECLARATION	espond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S) Supplemental Sheet Page 1 of 1							
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:	A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor							
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City			7in		Country			

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Docket No.: 772490100035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Waldman et al.

Application No. : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : Even Date Herewith

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Available

Examiner : Not Yet Available

Entitled : LIQUID CONTROL STRUCTURE

DECLARATION OF LORRI W. COOPER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby declare as follows:

- 1. I am the attorney of record for the above-noted application.
- 2. A Petition to Make Special is concurrently filed in connection with the application seeking special status based upon Environmental Quality considerations.
- 3. The present application is directed to a fluid control structure which may be used for purposes of field drainage and ground water control in agricultural applications. For example, the claimed structure may be used to maintain a water table level within a field or an animal feed lot. As a result, the flow control structure may be utilized to control nitrate releases into the ground water.

- 4. Nitrates are generated, *inter alia*, in livestock manure, especially from animal feed lots, and from fertilizer used in farming. Nitrates are very soluble. As a result, they easily migrate into the ground and water. (Exhibit 1).
- 5. On information and belief, it is advantageous to maintain nitrates in fields in order to serve the purposes of fertilizing the soil and providing nutrients to crops.
- 6. When nitrates are not maintained in the fields or animal feed lots in which they originate, nitrates may flow into the ground water. Elevated nitrate levels in ground water pose a risk to human health. (Exhibit 1).
- 7. As a result, the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") has established a limit on the amount of nitrates that may be safely present in ground water. The limit is currently set at 10 PPM. (Exhibit 1).
- 8. The EPA is in the process of reviewing its guidelines to strictly limit the amount of pollutants, including nitrates, that enter natural waterways through agricultural drainage applications. (Exhibit 2).
- 9. Safe and clean groundwater is a continuing goal of the EPA, as evidenced by the EPA's National Water Program Strategic Plan 2004-2008 -- Goal 2. (Exhibit 3).
- 10. On information and belief, the flow control structure of the present application may be used by farmers to adjust water elevations in fields. By maintaining the water level in fields, nitrates are deterred from flowing into the ground water and are maintained in the field, where they serve a beneficial purpose, described above in paragraph 5, *supra*. The invention is useful in deterring the flow of nitrates into ground water, thereby promoting ground water that is free from high levels of nitrates. At the same time, the invention helps to maintain fertile fields for agricultural purposes.
- 11. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that CLI-1135057v1

these statements are made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 or Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false testimony may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date'

Lorri W. Cooper

Reg. No. 40,038

Attorney for Hancor, Inc.